

# Exceptional Children Information for Parents

December 19, 2019



Public Schools of North Carolina  
State Board of Education  
Department of Public Instruction

<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov>

## Spotlight on Upcoming AU Policy Changes

Beginning January 1, 2020, there will be changes to the North Carolina Policy regarding Autism Spectrum Disorder. These changes were approved by the NC State Board of Education on September 5, 2019.

In order to improve alignment of NC Policies with effective practices, policy changes were needed in the evaluation and identification of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The purpose of the changes will provide clarity to school evaluations teams in understanding the critical areas to investigate in evaluating and identifying ADS, increase parental/caregiver input specific to ASD characteristics, decrease gaps in service/fragmented services across school and community providers, and decrease state complaints.

Here is an overview of the changes that have been approved:

- Addition of Motor Screening and Sensory Processing Evaluation to the NC required Screenings/Evaluations
- Modify the social/developmental history to include an examination of characteristics of ASD present during the early developmental period
- Modify the psychological evaluation to not have to yield an overall intellectual score
- Modify the Behavior assessment related to ASD
- Clarification of the eligibility criteria

For more information about these upcoming changes, visit the Exceptional Children Division's Hot Topics: <https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/>. In addition to the documents already available, there will be a Parent Guidance document that is projected to be out in late January. It will be sent out via the Listserv and posted on the website when it is available.

## Upcoming

January is...

- Birth Defects Awareness Month
- 4<sup>th</sup>: World Braille Day
- 24<sup>th</sup>: Moebius Syndrome Awareness Day

Autism Society of NC workshops

- After the Diagnosis: Get Answers, Get Help, Get Going
- After the Diagnosis: Helping an Older Child Navigate the Journey
- Como ayudar a los niños con autismo
- Estrategias para el comportamiento difícil
- Autism 101
- Understanding and managing Behavior in Autism
- IEP Process: Building Success for Your Child at School

Visit <https://www.autismsociety-nc.org/autism-workshops/> for dates, times, and more information.

North Carolina PTA

- Fostering Positive Relationships with Administration and Resolving Conflict in your PTA

Visit [ncpta.org/index.php/events/webinars/](https://ncpta.org/index.php/events/webinars/) for date, time, and more information.

Council for Exceptional Children

- International DADD Conference

Visit <http://www.daddcec.com/conference.html> for date, time, and more information

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